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AKTIVITÄT

KRAFTWERK FANZINE

This document contains the scanned pages of one of the Kraftwerk Aktivität Fanzines or complimentary publications that were produced from 1992 through to 1998.

During this time 10 Fanzines were published along with various update issues and other complimentary publications.

The scans have only been altered for clarity, with the exception of addresses and phone numbers that have now been blocked out. So please note that all errors and miss-information are as they appeared at the time of publication. Later issues tried to address the earlier problems as the production team put more stringent editorial practices in place.

Greetings,

Welcome to the second of the Aktivität Update sheets as part of your subscription. The initial intention was to have this in the post before Christmas, but in the end it seemed wiser to avoid the festive postal gridlock and wait for one or two more details to appear. Let's hope that this new year brings new material our way from Kraftwerk... we can but hope.

TRIBAL GATHERING 1997

It's been mentioned in both UK ('Muzik', 9/1996, page 8) and German music media ('Raveline', October 1996) that Kraftwerk are "rumoured to have been approached to play at next years Tribal Gathering" event in England. If you recall, it was also announced that they were to play at this years event, but that didn't happen. Best wait until more concrete facts become known before getting your hopes up...

Same with the recent announcement from the pages of Melody Maker (30.11.96) that there would be a new Kraftwerk album released in the first six months of 1997. Yes, very good, not heard that line before have we?! Just don't hold your breath... for posterity, here is what was printed;

"KRAFTWERK are strongly tipped to release a new LP in the first half of next year. The seminal Krautrock band have been in the studio in Dusseldorf working on material over the past few months though their record label ,EMI, says there is no firm release date. The band's last release was "The Mix" a compilation album of old material remixed by contemporary producers"

OFFICIAL KRAFTWERK WWW PAGE!

Yes, it's true, Kraftwerk have now set up their own official web page. At this moment in time, there is not a lot to it; the word 'KRAFTWERK' and a bitmapped rendition of the familiar radio-mast icon from the 'Radio-Activity' LP inner sleeve. There is also a five-second snippet of new sounds... reminiscent perhaps of the intro to 'Electric Cafe' (my own rough pen-picture for you). We can but wait and see if they add to the material there... for those of you with access to a WWW browser, the address to head for is; <http://www.kraftwerk.com>

The soundfile can be accessed directly at <http://www.kraftwerk.com/klingsklang.wav>

If we banish the usual cynicism for a moment, the fact that Kraftwerk have activated their own WWW page does perhaps indicate that something may be in the offing. Well, we can but hope...

TOPICS AT A GLANCE;

- TRIBAL GATHERING 1997
- OFFICIAL KRAFTWERK WWW PAGE!
- FURTHER DOEPPER INVOLVEMENT?
- JAPANESE 'RELEASES'
- NEW BOOTLEG MATERIAL
- 'TRANCEWERK EXPRESS' VOLUME 2
- WOLFGANG FLÜR/YAMO'
- KARL BARTOS/NEW ELEKTRIC MUSIC?
- NEU!/KLAUS DINGER
- KOMPUTER; LOOKING DOWN ON LONDON

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JAPANESE 'RELEASES'

So, what's happened to the Japanese re-issue of 'Computer World' with the three bonus tracks, I hear you ask? Well... it's still never appeared! The initial release date was put back... and put back again... and I assume once again. Suffice it to say, may I remind you not to hold your breath....

Also added to the list of items offered by Esprit mail order in the UK (and others too, for that matter) are the following Japanese items...

KRAFTWERK T.B.A (BRAND NEW Japanese CD single, due Feb '97) £ 11.99

KRAFTWERK T.B.A (BRAND NEW Japanese CD Album, due Feb '97) £ 21.99

Again... don't hold etc, etc.

One release that does look to be on the cards though is a re-issue of the 1993 'The Best of Kraftwerk' CD, this time with new artwork and a new catalogue number (Toshiba-EMI, TOCP-50115), it was due for release in early December. Same tracks as the original 1993 release though.

FURTHER DOEPFER INVOLVEMENT?

If you recall from issue 8 the article concerning the Kraftwerk input towards the Doepfer modular system, then it can be added that the German music press reports that there has been some further, though undetailed, Kraftwerk involvement in another new Doepfer instrument, the MS-404. As a little curio, on the back page of this Update I have reproduced an info sheet for the Doepfer MAQ16/3 MIDI/analogue sequencer, which highlights the Kraftwerk involvement. This image can be found at the following URL; <http://www.doepferusa.com:80/html/maq.html>

NEW BOOTLEG MATERIAL

'Complete Computer Tour Live' is the title of a new double CD that includes the 3.7.81 Hammersmith Odeon, London concert that was originally to be found on the triple-LP Japanese bootleg 'Computer Welt'. 'The Mix Live in Copenhagen' is also a double CD from the same company, this time containing the Copenhagen 24.10.1991 concert.

It appears that there is also a bootleg CD that combines the 'Kraftwerk' and 'Kraftwerk 2' LPs on the one disc, don't have much definite details at present though.

'TRANCEWERK EXPRESS' VOLUME 2

For those readers who enjoyed volume 1 of the 'Trancewerk Express' various artists Kraftwerk cover version album, a second volume is set for a January release from the US Hypnotic/Cleopatra label. More details as and when it may appear.

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WOLFGANG FLÜR/YAMO

There have been announcements in the German music press about releases from Wolfgang Flür's Yamo project. Initially, a single release by the name of 'Guiding Ray' was detailed, but this appears to have been ditched in favour of 'Stereomatic' and announced for a January release, to be followed by an album called 'Time Pie', which is on EMI and has a catalogue number already allocated. (The title of the album has changed numerous times - remember 'Blue Stories', 'Signals'? - don't be surprised if it changes again, I guess.) Again, release dates seem to be fluid.

Wolfgang Flür made an appearance, accompanied by Emil Schult, at this years KLEMDag event in Holland, where he aired some of his Yamo material.

Meanwhile, the December issue of the UK magazine Future Music features a letter, headlined 'A message from Kraftwerk?', apparently from Flür himself. It reads thus;

"Karl Bartos showed me your editorial about Kraftwerk. Maybe it's true that we were a kind of reference in music. But I can tell you that we are seriously preparing our new album, which will definitely come out in the Fall! We won't struggle. By the way, I do a lot more things than session drumming... Wenn Deine Musik die Beste ist, dann komm' uns doch mal in Düsseldorf besuchen!"

Future Music's editor Andy Jones notes in the reply;

"Thanks for the message, Wolfgang. I tried e-mailing you back but it kept bouncing. By your new album, do you mean as Kraftwerk or as your new band? Let us know!"

KARL BARTOS/NEW ELEKTRIC MUSIC MATERIAL SOON?

Details are yet to appear, but it has been mentioned by a reliably informed Aktivität reader that a new release from Karl Bartos/Elektric Music will appear in January... we await with interest...

From Germany, a double-CD various artists compilation 'Before Techno' (PolyGram, 535752-2) has been released and contains the single version of Elektric Music's 'TV'.

NEU!/KLAUS DINGER

A new release from NEU! has appeared on the Japanese label Captain Trip, cat. no. CTCD-051 by the name of 'LA? NEU?'. Tracks contained are; 'Hero '96 (l'accuse)' (22:37), 'Mayday '95' (4:24), 'Düsseldorf - 22.12.95' (33:39) 'Mayday '96' (8:36). Haven't come across this release as yet so can't tell you what the nature of the material is like, but at the ridiculously inflated prices the Japanese

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CONTINUED... imports sell for in the UK I urge you to let it tickle your ears first, lest you get your fingers burnt with a release like the previous 'NEU! 72 Live'!

An 8-piece incarnation of NEU! (but without Michael Rother, crucially) played live in Japan in early December in Tokyo and Osaka. More details should follow in Aktivität issue 9.

The Japanese 'Captain Trip' label, where the recent NEU! releases have come from, also list some other Klaus Dinger-associated releases in their catalogue; DIE ENGEL DES HERRN - 'Die Engel des Herrn' (cat. no. CTCD-008) / DIE ENGEL DES HERRN; 'Live! as: Hippie Punks' (CTCD-012) / KLAUS DINGER; 'Neondian' CTCD-016. Hopefully, more details can be provided in issue 9 of the fanzine.

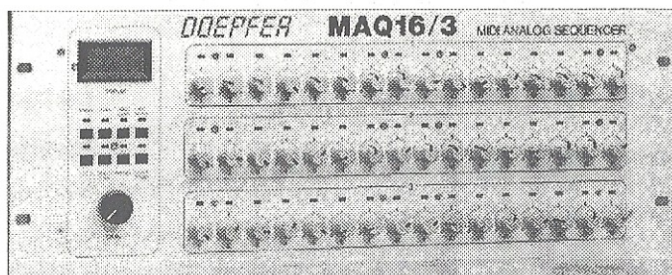
KOMPUTER

If you enjoyed the 'Komputer' EP from earlier this year by the Mute records act Komputer then you look out for their second release, 'Looking Down On London'. Kraftwerk influences all present and correct, the 'Trans-Europe Express'/'Europe Endless' flavour to the fore this time round.

Summarised by Ian Calder, December 1996. Particular thanks to Klaus Zäpke and Mark Stagg. □

MAQ16/3 MIDI ANALOG SEQUENCER (Version 3.0)

Designed in Cooperation with the German Band **KRAFTWERK**



Fans of vintage analog sequencers will be glad of the MAQ16/3. Combining the creative potential of an analog sequencer with the flexibility of MIDI, MAQ16/3 outputs the sequencing data to any MIDI-compatible synthesizer or sampler. MIDI Out of the sequencer can be connected to a MIDI channel in a synthesizer or sampler. Features include: 16 sliders, 16 MIDI channels, 16 MIDI Out of the sequencer, 16 MIDI channel in a synthesizer or sampler. Features include: 16 sliders, 16 MIDI channels, 16 MIDI Out of the sequencer, 16 MIDI channel in a synthesizer or sampler.

Current issue of Aktivität is number 8 (August 1996).

AKTIVITÄT,